

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

POLICE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, today is National Peace Officers Memorial Day, a day dedicated to the 13,814 peace officers who have given their lives to protect their communities.

Two years ago I stood in the well of this House to share my grief over the death of a friend of mine, Minneapolis Police Officer Jerry Haaf, who was slain in the line of duty.

At the time, I was haunted by thoughts of another cop friend, J.W. Anderson of the Wayzata Police Department, who was killed in 1982.

The names of these two brave cops are now inscribed on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, located just a few blocks from here.

Tragically, Jerry and J.W. were just 2 of 17 Twin Cities area police officers who were slain during the line of duty since 1970. Mr. Speaker, because we must never forget their ultimate sacrifice, I want to share these names:

James Sackett, St. Paul; Roger Rosengren, Ramsey County; Inno Suek, Minneapolis; Joseph Pudick, Minneapolis; Howard Johnson, Roseville; George Partridge, Jr., Minneapolis; Curtis Ramsdell, Columbia Heights; David Mack, Minneapolis; Michael Cassman, Minneapolis; Richard Miller, Minneapolis; Bruce Russell, Roseville; Richard Walton, Oakdale; James Anderson, Wayzata; John Scanlon, Robbinsdale; and Jerry Haaf, Minneapolis.

Mr. Speaker, with great sadness I report that two new names will be added to the list of Twin Cities police officers on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Just last year, two of St. Paul's finest police officers, Ron Ryan, Jr., and Tim Jones, were slain in the line of duty on the same day. Like all Minnesotans, that tragic day will live in my memory forever.

On Friday, August 26, 1994, Minnesotans were celebrating the first week of the State fair. I was at the State fair in St. Paul early that day, fresh back from Washington.

On the way to the fairgrounds that morning, reports started trickling in about what would soon become forever etched in Minnesotans' memories as one of the worst days in State history for our brave law enforcement officers. Just a few blocks away from the fair, a brave St. Paul police officer, a rookie, Ron Ryan Jr., the son of another St. Paul cop, was answering a routine call about a man sleeping in a car in the parking lot of Sacred Heart Church on Hope Street.

It was the last call he would ever take in a far too brief but decorated career in law enforcement. Witnesses report that Officer Ryan walked up to the car at about 7 a.m., shined his flashlight inside, then walked away. Then the man in the car shot Officer Ryan many times in the back, got out of his car and

walked over to Ryan, who lay dying on the ground. He turned him over, went through his pockets, seized Officer Ryan's gun and fled. By 8:30 a.m. 26-year-old Officer Ryan was pronounced dead.

This early-morning shooting set off a massive manhunt. St. Paul Police Officer Tim Jones, a 16-year veteran of the force, had the day off. But when he heard about the slaying of his fellow officer, Jones volunteered to join the manhunt.

Officer Jones and his canine partner, Laser, had become nationally renowned for their law enforcement efforts. At about 10:40 a.m., it appears that Laser tracked down the suspect, who then shot both Officer Jones and Laser to death. It is a sad irony that Officer Jones was shot by the gun that the suspect had taken from Officer Ryan.

Officer Jones had dedicated his life to law enforcement, especially the St. Paul department's canine program. He spent hour after hour, virtually all his free time, working with Laser and other officers in the canine program. Officer Jones and Laser were inseparable in life as they were in their tragic death.

In spite of this tragedy, we can still hope that the war against crime can be won because of the commitment of law enforcement professionals like Officers Ryan and Jones. We have newfound appreciation and respect for the skills, bravery, and dedication of officers like Officers Ryan and Jones. Every day, men and women in law enforcement serve on the frontlines and put the safety of the community ahead of their own lives.

I hope every visitor to our Nation's Capital will visit the Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial at Judiciary Square. Seeing the names carved in the walls will help people realize what cops and their families risk every day they put on the badge.

Mr. Speaker, we honor the dead like Officers Ron Ryan, Jr., and Tim Jones by respecting the living. Today we honor these two Minnesota officers and law enforcement officials everywhere by thanking their families for their sacrifice and sharing their grief.

I also hope the members of this body will honor the memory of slain officers through our actions on this floor. Let us continue to promote policies that help the brave men and women in law enforcement prevent the tragedy of crime and violence.

TRIBUTE TO THE CENTENARIANS OF THE WASHINGTON AND JANE SMITH HOME

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to five truly wonderful women, who on Tuesday, the 16th of May, will receive special recognition from the Social Security

Administration for having reached the extraordinary age of 100 years old.

The recipients of this special honor are Ms. Edith Guttridge, Ms. Margaret Van Huben, Ms. Margaret Byrne, Ms. Anna Conner, and Ms. Ruth Kennedy. Each of these distinguished ladies have touched so many people over the years, and they are to be applauded for their achievements over the past century.

I wish to extend to each of them my best wishes on this wonderful occasion, and am proud and honored to enter these words of commendation into the RECORD.

HUGO DECIUTIIS HONORED FOR LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the sad passing of Hugo DeCiutiis: A great American, a life-long educator, and community activist.

Mr. DeCiutiis grew up in Manhattan's Lower East Side until the outbreak of World War II, when he dutifully joined the 8th Army Air Force in England. After the war, Hugo returned home to continue his education; an ongoing pursuit that was destined to encompass the rest of his life.

With help from the GI bill, he graduated from City College of New York, Brooklyn College and Adelphi University with three different masters degrees in chemistry, earth science, and education. Convinced that there could be no higher calling than passing his knowledge on to future generations, Mr. DeCiutiis spent the next 32 years in the classroom, teaching chemistry and science at W.T. Clarke High School in Westbury, Long Island.

Mr. DeCiutiis' passion and devotion to education did not stop at the classroom door. He was an extremely active member of the Westbury School Board, where he distinguished himself as a tireless advocate for funding for public education. He will always be remembered for his efforts to achieve equitable State funding in public schools.

As a former school teacher, I have the highest degree of respect for those who choose to make education their life's work. Mr. DeCiutiis' accomplishments in the field of education exemplify what it means to be to be a teacher, and like all good teachers, he never stopped trying to become an ever better educator.

In addition to his direct involvement with education, Mr. DeCiutiis' was also devoted to the betterment of the entire community. He was a tutor at the Family Services Association of Hempstead, a member of the Westbury Historical Society, NAACP, Central Westbury Civic Association, LIFE—Learning is for Everyone—and co-founded the summer day camp GIFT—Great Ideas For Tomorrow—at the Lutheran High School in Brookville.

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